

16 November 1979

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Staff Meeting Minutes of 16 November 1979

The Director and Mr. Carlucci were attending an SCC meeting on Iran; Mr. Dirks chaired the meeting. [] 25X1

McMahon highlighted a report from a good source that the Ayatollah Khomeini will announce his intentions today re the U.S. hostages. He added 25X1

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McMahon called attention to a letter received yesterday from Senators Bayh and Goldwater to the Director, requesting the SSCI be briefed on the Iran situation. He explained the difficulty in responding to the Committee's specific concerns in a situation that is ongoing and in pulling officers away from situation handling to prepare such a briefing. McMahon recommended we try to get this put off, or respond to the Committee's interests via memorandum. Hitz said the difficulty is understood, noting however, the Committee has acted with restraint re the Iran situation and we should thus be as forthcoming as possible. He said he will get with the SSCI and try to work things out including a possible memorandum response. [] 25X1

[] called attention to the problem of shrinking funds in the Agency's Contingency Reserve; he noted [] in process 25X1 followed by two others amounting to [] which will reduce the 25X1 Reserve level to [] 25X1 He said the 1980 budget request for a [] replenishment will still result in a dangerously low Reserve 25X1 level. Hitz asked that our case on this be prepared as soon as possible and provided for use in the House/Senate Conference on the Defense Appropriation. [] agreed and added our difficult situation in this regard 25X1 would be fully recognized by the Conferees. Hitz recommended our case be prepared in the form of a Supplemental Appeal memorandum from the Director and noted Senators Bayh and Inouye can probably be counted on to get this through the Conference. McMahon said we should also take into account that following settlement of the hostage situation in Iran, additional Reserve Releases are likely to be needed for follow-up activities. [] 25X1

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Clarke called attention to two timely NFAC products--"A Psychological Perspective: Khomeini's Need for Martyrdom and the Likelihood of a Long Seige," and "Iran-Iraq: Deteriorating Relations." He said a study on the Qom airfield would be completed today. He said also it would be helpful in terms of analysts' work schedules to know if an SCC meeting on Iran is planned for tomorrow. Evans reported later in the meeting he had checked with the NSC and it appears a meeting is planned. [REDACTED]

25X1

Hitz reported the House/Senate Conference on the Defense Appropriation will recess today until 26 November. He said briefings to the SSCI on Presidential Findings went well but were somewhat frustrating in that some experienced Committee members persist in belaboring briefers with fundamental questions which have been answered in the past. [REDACTED]

25X1

Silver reported the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals decided yesterday on the Kampiles case--conviction upheld. [REDACTED]

25X1

Dirks noted, to McMahon in particular, the [REDACTED] has been put together successfully but has not been tested operationally. [REDACTED]

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